

## PROJECT FACT SHEET

## Christina River Watershed Pennsylvania & Delaware

July 2007

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: Reps. Castle (DE-AL), Sestak (PA-7), Pitts (PA-16)

## **APPROPRIATION / PHASE:**

**BUSINESS PROGRAM:** 

General Investigations / Feasibility

Watershed Planning

**AUTHORITY:** Senate Committee on Environmental and Public Works Resolution, dated October 29, 1997.

**LOCATION:** The Christina River watershed is located in New Castle County in Delaware; Delaware, Chester and Lancaster Counties in Pennsylvania; and Cecil County in Maryland. The watershed drains an approximate area of 565 square miles.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Christina River Watershed has been heavily urbanized since the mid-19th century and many wetland areas were filled in for industrial purposes. A Reconnaissance Study was completed in August 2002. The study identified impaired areas of the watershed and recommended potential solutions for each, including but not limited to ecosystem restoration, fish & wildlife habitat restoration, and flood damage reduction. Based on this study, opportunities within the Christina River Watershed (in Delaware and Pennsylvania) include reducing flood damage, improving aquatic habitat, providing public access to streams and dedicated greenway corridors, acquiring critical lands, and improving water quality. Various solutions to address these problems for specific locations within the watershed will be considered in depth during the feasibility phase, such as riparian buffer enhancement, stream bank stabilization, natural stream channel restoration, construction of fish passages, wetland creation and restoration, and structural flood damage reduction measures. The Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) has been signed by the non-Federal sponsor for Delaware.

**STATUS:** The Reconnaissance Report was completed in FY02. FY03-FY05 funding was used to develop a plan of study and FCSA for a smaller study within the Christina Watershed involving Red Clay Creek in Delaware. The feasibility cost sharing agreement was executed in February 2005. FY06 funds were utilized to continue a Feasibility Study for Red Clay Creek. FY07 funds (\$500,000 capability) will be used to continue efforts on the Feasibility Study.

 FINANCIAL

 DATA (\$000)
 Fed
 Non-Fed
 Total

 Feasibility
 1,217
 1,217
 2,435

 BUDGET

 DATA (\$000)
 Comments

 FY 04
 34

FY 04	34	
FY 05	54	
FY 06	150	
FY 07	250	

## Christina River Watershed, Pennsylvania & Delaware (continued)

**SPONSOR:** The non-Federal sponsor for the feasibility phase is the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC).

**COMMENTS:** An existing conditions environmental investigation was completed and summarized as part of the Reconnaissance Study. More in depth studies will be conducted as part of the Feasibility Study.

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